

State of California • Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor State and Consumer Services Agency

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

Interagency Support Division • Office of Public School Construction

October 10, 2008

TO: ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

TITLE 2. STATE ALLOCATION BOARD

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION

THE STATE ALLOCATION BOARD PROPOSES
TO AMEND REGULATION SECTION 1859.104.1,
TITLE 2, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, RELATING
TO LEROY F. GREENE SCHOOL FACILITIES ACT OF 1998

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Allocation Board (SAB) proposes to amend the above-referenced regulation section, contained in Title 2, California Code of Regulations (CCR). A public hearing is not scheduled. A public hearing will be held if any interested person, or his or her duly authorized representative, submits a written request for a public hearing to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period. Following the public hearing, if one is requested, or following the written comment period if no public hearing is requested, the OPSC, at its own motion or at the instance of any interested person, may adopt the proposal substantially as set forth above without further notice.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE CITATIONS

The SAB is proposing to amend the above-referenced regulation section under the authority provided by Section 17070.35 of the Education Code. The proposal interprets and makes specific reference to Sections 17070.51 and 17077.40 of the Education Code.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY OVERVIEW STATEMENT

The Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 established, through Senate Bill 50, Chapter 407, Statutes of 1998, the School Facility Program (SFP). The SFP provides a per-pupil grant amount to qualifying school districts for purposes of constructing school facilities and modernizing existing school facilities. The SAB adopted regulations to implement the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998, which were approved by the Office of Administrative Law and filed with the Secretary of State on October 8, 1999.

The SAB, at its June 25, 2008 meeting, amended SFP Regulation Section 1859.104.1, "Material Inaccuracy Penalties," for school districts submitting Project Information Worksheets to the Office of Public School Construction. The Worksheet is used to report current school construction costs to be analyzed by the SAB to determine annual adjustments to the SFP new construction grant amount. The proposed amendment makes the penalties inapplicable to Worksheet submittals which report "the best available information at the time of filing," thereby helping to protect school districts and facilitate the gathering of school construction cost data.

The proposed amendment to the SFP regulation section is as follows:

Existing Regulation Section 1859.104.1 sets forth administrative and monetary penalties which the SAB may impose against school districts which submit falsely certified information that allows them an advantage in the SFP funding process. The proposed amendment makes the penalties inapplicable to submittals of the Project Information Worksheet which report "the best available information at the time of filing."

IMPACT ON LOCAL AGENCIES OR SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The Executive Officer of the SAB has determined that the proposed regulation does not impose a mandate or a mandate requiring reimbursement by the State pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of the Government Code. It will not require local agencies or school districts to incur additional costs in order to comply with the proposed regulation.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The Executive Officer of the SAB has assessed the potential for significant adverse economic impact on businesses or private persons that might result from the proposed regulatory action and the following determinations have been made relative to the required statutory categories:

- The SAB has made an initial determination that there will be no significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.
- There will be no impact in the creation or elimination of jobs within the State, the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in California.
- The SAB is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.
- There will be no non-discretionary costs or savings to local agencies.
- There will be no costs to school districts except for the required district contribution toward each project as stipulated in statute.
- There will be no costs or savings in federal funding to the State.
- There are no costs or savings to any State agency.
- The SAB has made an initial determination that there will be no impact on housing costs.

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

It has been determined that the adoption of the regulation section will not affect small businesses in the ways identified in subsections (a)(1)–(4) of Section 4, Title 1, CCR. The regulation only applies to school districts for purposes of funding school facility projects.

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS, DOCUMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any interested person may present statements, arguments or contentions, in writing, submitted via U.S. mail, e-mail or fax, relevant to the proposed regulatory action. Written comments submitted via U.S. mail, e-mail or fax must be received at the OPSC no later than November 24, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. The express terms of the proposed regulation as well as the Initial Statement of Reasons are available to the public.

Written comments, submitted via U.S. mail, e-mail or fax, regarding the proposed regulatory action, requests for a copy of the proposed regulatory action or the Initial Statement of

Reasons, and questions concerning the substance of the proposed regulatory action should be addressed to:

Robert Young, Regulations Coordinator

Mailing Address: Office of Public School Construction

1130 K Street, Suite 400 Sacramento, CA 95814

E-mail Address: robert.young@dgs.ca.gov

Fax No.: (916) 445-5526

AGENCY CONTACT PERSONS

General or substantive questions regarding this Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action may be directed to Robert Young at (916) 445-0083. If Mr. Young is unavailable, these questions may be directed to the backup contact person, Lisa Jones, Supervisor, Regulations Team, at (916) 322-1043.

ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS

Please note that, following the public comment period, the SAB may adopt the regulation substantially as proposed in this notice or with modifications, which are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text and notice of proposed regulatory activity. If modifications are made, the modified text with the changes clearly indicated will be made available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the date on which the SAB adopts the regulation.

The modified regulation(s) will be made available and provided to: all persons who testified at and who submitted written comments at the public hearing, all persons who submitted written comments during the public comment period, and all persons who requested notification from the agency of the availability of such changes. Requests for copies of any modified regulation should be addressed to the agency's regulations coordinator identified above. The SAB will accept written comments on the modified regulations during the 15-day period.

SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES WILL REQUIRE A NEW NOTICE

If, after receiving comments, the SAB intends to adopt the regulation with modifications not sufficiently related to the original text, the modified text will not be adopted without complying anew with the notice requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act.

RULEMAKING FILE

Pursuant to Government Code Section 11347.3, the SAB is maintaining a rulemaking file for the proposed regulatory action. The file currently contains:

- 1. A copy of the text of the regulations for which the adoption is proposed in strikeout/underline.
- 2. A copy of this notice.
- 3. A copy of the Initial Statement of Reasons for the proposed adoption.
- 4. The factual information upon which the SAB is relying in proposing the adoption.

As data and other factual information, studies, reports or written comments are received, they will be added to the rulemaking file. The file is available for public inspection at the OPSC during normal working hours. Items 1 through 3 are also available on the OPSC Internet Web site at: http://www.opsc.dgs.ca.gov under "Regulations," then click on "Proposed Regulations."

<u>ALTERNATIVES</u>

In accordance with Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(13), the SAB must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the SAB would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action.

AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Upon its completion, the Final Statement of Reasons will be available and copies may be requested from the agency's regulation coordinator named in this notice or may be accessed on the Web site listed above.